## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE.

Application of: Kazuhiko Oogake

Examiner: Marguerite J. McMhon

Serial No.: 10/575,793

Group Art Unit: 3747

Filed: April 14, 2006

Attorney Docket No.: 713128.74

For: INTERNAL COMBUSTION ENGINE AND LINER

Customer No.: 27128

INSTALLATION RING

Last Office Action: December 27, 2007

Confirmation No : 4921

## RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated February 6, 2008, Applicants hereby elect for prosecution at this time the Species I claims, namely, claims 1, 4, 6-13, 16. The election of the Species I claims is made without traverse and without prejudice to the non-elected Species II, III, IV, V, VI, VII, and VIII claims. Species I is illustrated in Figs. 1, 2 and 5.

Because Applicants may wish to pursue claims of the non-elected Species at a later date by Divisional Applications, it is requested that these non-elected claims, namely, claims 2, 3, 5, 14 and 15, be permitted to remain in the application, pursuant to 37 CFR I.142, but withdrawn from examination.

This response does not present any new matter, and the election of the Species I claims does not give rise to any amendment of inventorship with respect to the present application. Application of: Kazuhiko Oogake Serial No.: 10/575.793

Response to Restriction Requirement

Accordingly, as all requirements of the Action bave been complied with, an action on the merits and a Notice of Allowance are hereby respectfully solicited.

If any issue regarding the allowability of any of the pending claims in the present application could be readily resolved, or if other action could be taken to further advance this application such as an Examiner's amendment, or if the Examiner should have any questions regarding the present amendment, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner please telephone Annicant's undersioned attorney in this recard.

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Respectfully submitted,

Date: 4mar 08

-Samuel Digirolamo Reg. No. 29,915 Blackwell Sanders LLP 720 Olive Street, Suite 2400 St. Louis, MO 63101 314-345-6000 ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT